

Carol Coles

From: Carol Coles
Sent: Wednesday, May 12, 2010 4:53 PM
To: *everyone; _Council Members; Andy Rieger; Denise Holder; Eddie Sims; Jane Cannon; KGOU; KOCO; KOKH; Ktok; KTOK; Norman News; Oklahoma Daily
Subject: City Storm Update

City of Norman

201 W Gray
Norman, Oklahoma 73069

Press Release**For Immediate Release**

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Debris Removal

The City of Norman will begin clearing tornado generated debris as soon as possible. If you are in the tornado damaged area, vegetative debris must be separated from all other items and all debris placed in the public right of way near the curb. Please avoid covering water meters, gas meters or fire hydrants and be careful not to place debris near intersections or obstruct visibility for motorists.

If you are in an area that suffered damage from high winds, debris can be picked up during the normal pick-up of yard waste (limbs no larger than two inches in diameter, bundled in four foot lengths). Larger items must be taken to the Transfer Station located at 3901 S. Chautauqua or the City of Norman Compost Facility located at 398 Bratcher Miner Road.

Water

We continue to be restricted on the quantity of water received from Lake Thunderbird. This is due to the damage and loss of electrical power at the pumping facility. We want our citizens to continue the outdoor watering ban until further notice. There should be no concerns with water quality as it has been tested by both the City of Norman and the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality.

Power Outages

OEC officials report seven hundred customers still without power. They are currently setting poles and restoring power with one hundred and twenty five additional personnel.

OG&E reports that more than 200 transmission structures, 450 distribution poles and cross-arms and nearly 100 distribution transformers were lost. There are more than 500 people working to restore service for the 40,000 who lost power. Losing 200 transmission structures, including 21 big steel lattice towers and 24 line sections down, means the May 10th tornado outbreak surpasses the May 3, 1999, tornado in terms of transmission damage.

Shelters

The following shelters are open to assist those displaced by the storms.

Red Cross Operated shelters

Crosspointe Church in Norman, 2601 24th Avenue – services include meals, shelter, showers and assistance.

Tribal Operated shelters

Absentee Shawnee Tribe Resource Center, 1970 156th Avenue, Little Axe

Absentee Shawnee Tribe - Brendel Corner, Little Axe

Road Conditions

All public streets are clear of debris and open to traffic. 156th Ave NE was closed from HWY 9 to Rock Creek Road earlier this afternoon to facilitate the electric companies in replacing poles.

Little Axe Community Center

The Health Department is providing tetanus shots between 1:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. Thursday, May 13th at the Little Axe Community Center. The Center is currently providing referral information and developing a volunteer and needs list. The center is providing bottle water and snacks as long as donations allow.